

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 2

Please amend the following claims:

~~1~~ ^{S4} 1. (Once Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a first key;
a light source oriented towards the first key, the light source providing two or more selectable types of light having different characteristics, at least one of the different characteristics being wavelength; and
one or more glyphs disposed on said first key, each glyph having a given visual contrast that is dependent on the wavelength of the light being provided from the light source.

2. (Cancelled)

~~3~~ ^{S4} 3. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein additional characteristics of said light source include intensity or location.

~~4~~ ^{S4} 4. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein regions of the first key not comprising a glyph are white.

~~5~~ ^{B2} 5. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein regions of the first key not comprising a glyph are black.

6. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the first key is translucent.

7. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein a glyph on the first key is transparent.

8. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein a glyph on the first key is translucent.

9. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the first key is transparent.

10. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 9, wherein a glyph on the first key is translucent.

11. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, including a plurality of additional keys having one or more glyphs disposed thereon, each glyph having a given visual contrast that is dependent on the wavelength of the light being provided from the light source.

12. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the glyphs on two or more of the plurality of keys are transparent.

13. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the glyphs on two or more of the plurality of keys are translucent.

14. (Unchanged) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a selector coupled to the light source.

15. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein the selector selects the type of light oriented towards the first key.

16. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the characteristic of the type of light selected is the wavelength of the light.

17. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the wavelength of the type of light selected produces a color complementary to the color of a glyph that corresponds to the selected type of light.

18. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the selected type of light decreases the visual contrast between a corresponding glyph and the remainder of the key over the visual contrast between a non-corresponding glyph and the remainder of the key.

19. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, wherein the selected type of light is of a complementary color to the color of the corresponding glyph.

20. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the selected wavelength of the light source decreases the visual contrast between a glyph corresponding to the type of light selected and the remainder of the key over the visual contrast between a non-corresponding glyph and the remainder of the key.

21. (Unchanged) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the light source is a light emitting diode ("LED").

22. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the light source is at least one of a group consisting of: a fluorescent light source, a laser light source, an incandescent light source, an ultraviolet light source, or an infrared light source.

23. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the light source is under the first key.

24. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the light source is above the first key.

25. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the light source is toward a side of the first key.

26. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the light source is located inside the first key.

27. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein the selector is a thumbwheel.

28. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein the selector is a second key.

29. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein the selector is voice activated.

30. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein the selector is a portion of a touch-screen.

31. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein the selector is implemented in software.

32. (Once Amended) A method comprising:
providing a key wherein the key includes at least one glyph wherein each glyph on the key is of a different color; and

selecting one of the glyphs on the key by lighting the key with a selected light source that produces light of a given wavelength which increases the visual contrast between the selected glyph and a remaining non-glyph portion of the key relative to the visual contrast between a non-selected glyph and the remaining non-glyph portion of the key.

33. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 32, wherein the light source provides one or more selectable types of light, each type of light having a different wavelength.

34. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 33, wherein at least one of the selectable types of light causes the selected glyph to have an increased contrast when compared to another glyph on the key.

35. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 33, wherein at least one of the selectable types of light causes the selected glyph to have a decreased contrast when compared to the non-selected glyph.

36. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the color of the selected light source is complementary in color to the color of a non-selected glyph.

37. (Once Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a keyboard wherein the keyboard includes a plurality of keys;
a plurality of glyphs on one or more keys of the keyboard wherein each glyph on a given key is of a specified color;

a light source to provide a plurality of selectable colors, wherein the specified color increases the visual contrast between a glyph on a key of the keyboard and a remaining non-glyph region of key over the visual contrast between another glyph on the key and a remaining non-glyph region of the key; and

a glyph selector communicatively coupled to the light source to select from the plurality of selectable colors.

38. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 37, wherein the light source includes a plurality of light sources and wherein at least one of the plurality of light sources is under one or more keys.

39. (Once Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard comprising a plurality of keys;

a plurality of glyphs on one or more of the keys of the keyboard wherein each glyph on a given key is of a specified color;

a light source to provide a plurality of selectable colors, wherein the specified color increases the visual contrast between a glyph on a key of the keyboard and a remaining non-glyph region of the key over the visual contrast between another glyph on the key and the remaining non-glyph region of said key; and

a glyph selector communicatively coupled to the light source to select from the plurality of selectable colors.

40. (Unchanged) The apparatus as recited in claim 39, wherein the light source is directed toward the keyboard.

41. (Once Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a keyboard having a perimeter and comprising a plurality of keys;

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a plurality of glyphs on one or more of the keys of the keyboard wherein each glyph on a given key is of a specified color;

a light source to provide a plurality of selectable colors, wherein the light source is located on or outside of the perimeter of the keyboard, wherein the specified color increases the visual contrast between a glyph on a key of the keyboard and a remaining non-glyph region of the key over the visual contrast between another glyph on the key and the remaining non-glyph region of said key; and

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a glyph selector [wherein the glyph selector is] communicatively coupled to the light source to select from the plurality of selectable colors.

42. (Unchanged) The apparatus as recited in claim 41 wherein a light ray from the light source is substantially conducted laterally from the perimeter of the keyboard through at least one side of at least one of the plurality of keys.

43. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 41, wherein a light ray from the light source is substantially conducted laterally through a first key of the keyboard to a second key of the keyboard.

44. (Once Amended) A method comprising:
providing a keyboard wherein the keyboard includes a plurality of keys wherein one or more of the keys includes a plurality of glyphs and wherein each glyph of the plurality of glyphs has a color;

providing a light source with a plurality of selectable colors; and
selecting at least one of the plurality of selectable colors wherein the selected color or colors increases the visual contrast between a glyph and a remaining non-glyph region of a key over the visual contrast between another glyph on the same key and the remaining non-glyph region on the same key.

45. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 44, wherein the light source is located within one or more or all of the plurality of keys.

46. (Once Amended) The method as recited in claim 44, wherein the light source includes a plurality of light sources and wherein at least one of the plurality of light sources is under one or more of the plurality of keys.

47. (Once Amended) A method comprising:

providing a keyboard wherein the keyboard includes a plurality of keys wherein one or more of the keys includes a plurality of glyphs and wherein each glyph of the plurality of glyphs has a color;

providing a light source with a plurality of selectable colors wherein the light source is located above the keyboard; and

selecting at least one of the plurality of selectable colors wherein the selected color or colors increases the visual contrast between a glyph and a remaining non-glyph region of the corresponding key over the visual contrast between another glyph on the same key and the remaining non-glyph region on the same key.

48. (Once Amended) A method comprising:

providing a keyboard having a perimeter wherein the keyboard includes a plurality of keys wherein each one of the keys includes a plurality of glyphs and wherein each glyph on each key has a color;

providing a light source with a plurality of selectable colors wherein the light source is located on or outside of the perimeter of the keyboard; and

selecting at least one of the plurality of selectable colors wherein the selected color or colors increases the visual contrast between a glyph and a remaining non-glyph region of the corresponding key over the visual contrast between another glyph on the same key and the remaining non-glyph region on the same key.

49. (Unchanged) The apparatus as recited in claim 48 wherein a light ray from the light source is substantially conducted laterally from the perimeter of the keyboard through at least one side of at least one of the plurality of keys.

50. (Once Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 48, wherein a light ray from the light source is substantially conducted laterally through a first key of the keyboard to a second key of the keyboard.

51. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the glyphs are either symbols, emblems, marks, figures, patterns, characters, letters, digits, or punctuation marks.

52. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a first key;

a light source oriented towards the first key, the light source providing two or more selectable types of light having different characteristics, at least one of the differing characteristics being wavelength; and

one or more regions into which the key is divided, each region having a given visual contrast with the remainder of the first key that is dependent on the wavelength of the light being provided from the light source.

53. (New) A method comprising:

providing a key wherein the key is partitioned into one or more given regions wherein each region is of a different color; and

selecting one of the regions by lighting the key with a selected light source that produces light of a given wavelength which increases the visual contrast between the selected region and the remaining portion of the key relative to the

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visual contrast between the non-selected region and the remaining portion of the key.